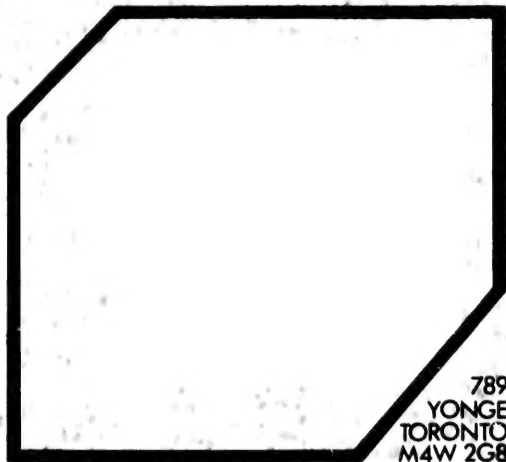


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BY

W. BRADLEY.

*G. W. Lecturer to the B. A. O. of Good Templars.*

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## FACTS AND FIGURES.

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A BRIGHT future doubtless awaits "this Canada of ours." The extent of its prosperity, of course, depends very largely on the industry, sobriety, and piety of its people. Our glorious Mother Country has risen high in the scale of nations. We are proud of Old England, the land which gave us birth; and we are proud of young Canada, the land of our adoption.

The commerce of England has been the means of elevating her; and her Christianity has made her beloved in every quarter of the globe. But she would be greater still, were it not for the abominable liquor traffic. It is preying upon her vitals, by crippling her commerce and dimming her Christianity; and unless that traffic is crushed, it will sap the foundations of her greatness, and make her a *second* instead of a first-rate power. Ancient history is very instructive on this point. Wine-drinking led to the downfall of several ancient nations; for "it would be easy to show that the golden age of every ancient nation was the age when it drank water, and that the period of its downfall was the period when it exchanged water for wine. The wine-drinking of Nineveh and Babylon succumbed to an army of teetotalers. The Persians in turn became wine-bibbers, and yielded to teetotal Grecians. Greece yielded to Rome; yet the golden age of Rome was an age of teetotalism. Wine-drinking Rome was obliged to ask for the defence of her effeminate sons,—the sword of teetotal barbarians.

The whole wine-drinking world trembled like a leaf before the water-drinking Saracens: these, in their turn, became luxurious, disobeyed the laws of the Koran respecting total abstinence, and then trembled before the teetotal Turks. These again became debased by luxury and wine, and succumbed to the Ottoman water-drinkers;" and no country can continue to prosper while its people are addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors.

Our young Dominion may learn a lesson here. Whiskey and other drinks of a similar nature are doing their work; and unless we take warning in time the evil will rapidly grow upon us and retard our progress in the way to general prosperity.

We find from the admirably written pamphlet, "What does it Cost?" by the Rev. W. Scott, Wesleyan Minister, that the cost to our Dominion caused by the liquor traffic is \$43,500,000 per annum; and that sum on closer examination is rather under the mark than over, so we were curious enough to calculate what that sum of money would purchase, or how it might be more profitably appropriated. In the first place we would invite the attention of our merchants and others as to what it would do in their line. That sum would purchase the following articles, viz. :—

#### COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

500,000 pairs of socks, at 50c. per pair .....	\$250,000 00
250,000 pairs of boots, at \$4 " .....	1,000,000 00
2,000,000 yards of calico, at 12½c. per yard...	250,000 00
1,000,000 yards of flannel, at 50c. " .....	500,000 00
250,000 dress pieces, at \$5 each .....	1,250,000 00
250,000 pairs of sheets, at \$3 per pair .....	750,000 00
250,000 pairs of blankets, at \$6 " .....	1,500,000 00
1,000,000 yards of cloth, at \$2 per yard .....	2,000,000 00
500,000 pounds of tea, at \$1 per pound.....	500,000 00
500,000 bags of flour, at \$3 per bag ... ..	1,500,000 00
1,000,000 bushels of potatoes, at 50c. per bsl.	500,000 00
100,000 buffalo robes, at \$15 each .....	1,500,000 00

Let our tradesmen ponder over these facts and

figures, and think what an impetus it would give to trade, for it would do this every year, and cause them to bask in the sunbeams of commercial prosperity. But that is not near all. It would allow us to do something for those objects of charity, which in almost any country may be found, so that we would give as follows for

#### BENEVOLENT PURPOSES.

4,000 old or infirm people, \$125 per year each	\$500,000 00
250,000 cords of wood for poor, at \$6 per cord	1,500,000 00

We could also assist in educational matters, by erecting for

#### INTELLECTUAL IMPROVEMENT.

500 reading rooms, at \$8,000 each.....	\$4,000,000 00
500 village schools, at \$2,000 each.....	1,000,000 00
500 schools for small towns, at \$4,000 each	2,000,000 00
250 schools for large towns, at \$8,000 each	2,000,000 00
2,000 teachers, at \$500 each per annum.....	1,000,000 00

In addition to all this, we could devote a large sum for still higher and nobler purposes, viz. :—

#### MORAL AND RELIGIOUS MATTERS.

1,000 town missionaries, at \$500 each yearly	\$500,000 00
500 temperance halls, at \$4,000 each .....	2,000,000 00
1,000 village churches, at \$2,000 each .....	2,000,000 00
1,000 churches for small towns, at \$4,000 each.....	4,000,000 00
500 churches for large towns or cities, at \$8,000.....	4,000,000 00
1,000 foreign missionaries, at \$1,000 each yearly.....	1,000,000 00
500,000 family bibles, at \$4 each .....	2,000,000 00

Nor is this all. We could help the poorer classes in the mother country. There, they have a surplus population, comparatively speaking. They have vast numbers who could sing with the immortal Wesley,—

“ No foot of land do I possess,  
No cottage in the wilderness,  
A poor wayfaring man :”

While in this country, if they could only get here, they might, after a while, get 50 or 100 acres of land of their own; and within the limits of their small estate, stand, and look, and sing with Alexander Selkirk,—

“ I am the monarch of all I survey,  
My right there is none to dispute.”

But they have not the means of getting here, and (though things are improving in this respect) no Government in Canada has yet offered sufficient inducements for the horny-handed sons of toil to break up their homes in the old country to seek new ones here. We would therefore give them a round sum each year for

#### EMIGRATION PURPOSES.

20,000 families, at \$50 per family, or  
100,000 adults, at \$20 per head, would be  
assisted out each year .....\$2,000,000 00

And all we have mentioned could be done with the money which is worse than squandered each year in strong drink by the people of this Dominion. But some might ask, “ What are the tavern-keepers to do? You surely would not let them starve.” No; for we would

“ Deal gently with the erring ones,”

and pension them off as follows :—

5,000 tavern-keepers, at \$500 each per annum, \$2,500,000 00

as it would be better to pay them for doing nothing than for doing mischief. They might, however, still keep their houses open for real refreshment houses, with accommodation for man and beast.

Then, again, the second and following years would be still more encouraging, as the items allowed for building schools, reading rooms, temperance halls, and churches would not have to be laid out every year; and thus \$21,000,000, or nearly half the whole amount, would



be available for other purposes. Allowing \$1,000,000 per annum to keep them in repairs, there would still be \$20,000,000 every year to assist in draining our swamps, improving our public roads, or opening up the back part of our country by sending the iron horse to facilitate measures for securing greater commercial advantages, and otherwise assisting in helping on the general prosperity of our large and important country. Supposing this to be done, what a mighty change for the better would take place; as besides all the good accomplished, there would be a vast amount of evil prevented!

Intemperance is a great curse to any country, as every one would admit; then, as patriots, as philanthropists, as Christians, we ought to crush it. The prosperity of the liquor-traffic means commercial depression, immorality, and comparative poverty to the country. Though our young Dominion has not yet felt this to any extent, it will ultimately prove the truth of it unless the drinking customs of the country are checked: hence it is better to be wise in time.

The London (England) *Times* said in its issue of Jan. 19th, 1863, that "the use of strong drink produces more idleness, crime, disease, want, and misery, *than all other causes put together.*" Lord John Russell once said, in Exeter Hall, "I am convinced there is no cause more likely to elevate the people of this country in every respect, whether as regards religion, whether as regards political importance, whether as regards literary and moral cultivation, than this great question of Temperance." Richard Cobden spoke very pointedly to the same effect. Charles Buxton, M.P., the great brewer, said, "It is in vain that every engine is set to work which philanthropy can devise so long as men are habitually tampering with their faculties of reason and will, soaking their brains with beer, or inflaming them with ardent spirit. The struggle of the church,



the school-room, and the library, all united against the beer-shop and gin-palace, is but one development of the war between heaven and hell." It is therefore against this giant evil—strong drink—this enemy of God and man, that we would lift up the warning voice. We would appeal to all true patriots, philanthropists, and Christians for help in this great work, this godlike enterprise. To our legislators we would say, let all your legislative enactments be on the side of sobriety and religion. To each of the watchmen on Zion's walls we would say, "Cry aloud, and spare not; lift up thy voice like a trumpet and shew the drunkard his transgression, and the drunkard-maker his sin." If the church of God, to a man, would cease to patronize the drinking system, it could not and would not lift up its ugly head much longer. "Let total abstinence be adopted, then the golden age of prophecy and the millennium shall be seen commencing its era of health, peace, prosperity, and piety throughout the world. To aid in bringing that day, every angel in heaven is already winged for flight; every promise and prophecy of revelation pregnant with blessings for a ruined world travail in birth; the Son of God, clothed in his priestly vestments of intercession, is now pleading near the altar of incense, or, girt with Omnipotence, is ascending his chariot of salvation; and all that is wanting to move with rapidity and effect this evangelic apparatus is the co-operation of earth. Let that be granted, then the desert shall much sooner rejoice and blossom as the rose; then the glory of the Lord shall much sooner be revealed, and all flesh shall see it, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it." Teetotalize the world and it will be more civilized; to a greater extent, moralized; and would much sooner be Christianized. May God hasten the day when the spotless banner of Temperance and Prohibition shall wave triumphantly in the breeze!